



Roundtable: Domestic Offsets under Article 24 (a)

Harmonisation of initiatives to reduce emissions from non-EU ETS sectors under Article 24 (a) of

the EU ETS Directive

Date: 1 March 2010
Location: Brussels, Ernest Blérotstraat 1 (see map below)
Meeting room: Storck

Introduction

The European Emission Trading Scheme (EU ETS) covers merely half of the emissions of the participating Member States. This leaves the other half of total emissions uncapped at installation and emission source level and largely non-accessed by emissions trading. The only uniform trading framework accessible to entities at sub-national level is Joint Implementation (JI) which in conjunction with the Linking Directive allows the generation of Emission Reduction Units (ERUS) in non-EU ETS sectors and their transfer and use as offset credits within the EU ETS. While embraced by some Member States, JI has not created the level of activity that the emission reduction potential of non-EU ETS sectors deserves.

This may change after the 2009 amendment of the EU ETS Directive which introduces the concept of domestic offsets. In Article 24 (a) the Directive reads:¹

“[Implementing] measures for issuing allowances or *credits* in respect of projects administered by Member States that reduce greenhouse gas emissions not covered by the Community scheme may be adopted.” (emphasis added)

This Roundtable aims at updating participants of regulatory initiatives taken thus far under or in line with this provision and at identifying options for a harmonized approach.

Further background information and analysis on the topic will be provided before the Roundtable.

¹ Ibid., Article 24 a (1); italics added.

Agenda

- 09:00-09:30 **Reception and Registration**
- 09:30-10:00 **Welcome**
Paul Magnette, Minister of Climate and Energy, Belgium
Adriaan Korthuis, Director, Climate Focus
Benoît Leguet, Head of research on climate change, Caisse des Dépôts and JISC chair
- 10:00-10:30 **Presentation**
Domestic Offsetting Projects from the Perspective of the EU ETS. Options and Latest Developments
(Damien Meadows/Johannes Enzmann, European Commission)
- 10:30-11:00 **Break**
- 11:00-11:30 **Presentation**
Domestic Offsets: Status, Potential and Methodological Harmonisation
(Wytze van der Gaast, Senior Consultant, Joint Implementation Network)
- 11:30-12:00 **Presentation**
Domestic JI—A Credit Blueprint for Europe?
(Moritz von Unger, Senior Legal Counsel, Climate Focus)
- 12:00-13:00 **Drinks and small lunch**
- 13:00-14:00 **Presentations : Domestic Offsets - first experiences**
Germany – Dr. Wolfgang Seidel
France – Mr. Dimitar Nikov
Poland – Ms. Zborowska
- 14:00-14:30 **Break**
- 14:30-17:00 **Roundtable discussion**
Moderator: Adriaan Korthuis
- 1) Input from Member States and Commission on:
 - a. opinion on the future of JI after Copenhagen;
 - b. how they see their role under article 24a of the EU ETS;
 - c. whether implementing legislation is planned;
 - d. what the scope and features would be.
 - 2) What are synergies in the various proposals.
 - 3) How can these synergies be developed to a harmonised approach.
 - 4) Lessons to be learned from JI and its organisational structure (JISC)
 - 5) Next steps.
- 17:00 **End**



How to get there ?

By train

Get off at Brussels-Midi station and follow the directions to the “Place Horta”. The Eurostation II building is just opposite this exit. Take the entrance on the right side of the building.

By metro

Get off at the “Gare du Midi” metro station and head for the “Tour du Midi” exit. The Eurostation II building is two minutes from this exit.

By bus

- STIB: buses 27, 49, 50, 78 stop in the covered area (tram and bus hall) alongside the Gare du Midi. Head for the “Esplanade de l’Europe” or “Tour du Midi”: the building is two minutes from there. You can also cross the station and head for the “Place Horta”: the building is just opposite this exit.

- De Lijn: buses 116, 117, 118, 134, 136, 137, 140, 144, 145 stop at Avenue Paul Henri Spaak. From there, go towards the Gare du Midi and take the first street on the right.

- TEC: buses W, 123 and 365 stop at Avenue Fonsny. From there, go through the station and use the “Place Horta” exit, just opposite the building.

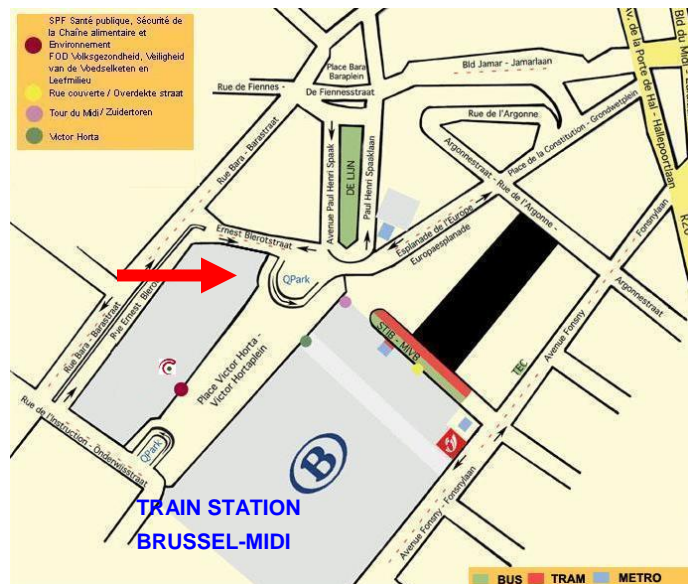
By tram

- Trams 81, 82 (31, 32, 83) stop in the covered area (tram and bus hall) alongside the Gare du Midi. Head for the “Esplanade de l’Europe” or “Tour du Midi”: the building is two minutes from there. You can also go through the station and head for the “Place Horta”: the building is just opposite this exit.

- Trams 3, 4 and 51 stop in the underground metro station of the Gare du Midi. Head for the “Tour du Midi”. The building is two minutes from this exit.

By car

Go to Bruxelles-Midi station. A public underground car park “Q-Parc” is located next to the FPS. Eurostation II is located between the Gare du Midi and rue Bara.



For further questions please contact
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